

**For Immediate Release**

**July 20, 2004**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS  
FOR THE DARBYDALE SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**Columbus, OH** – At this morning's General Session, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners signed a resolution authorizing contracts in the amount of \$6,098,871 for construction of the Darbydale Wastewater Collection System and Treatment Plant. This facility will become a key component of a sewer improvement project designed to alleviate existing contamination brought on by failed or failing on-lot septic and leaching systems and off-lot discharging aeration systems within the Darbydale community.

The three firms that were awarded contracts for this project are: Peterson Construction Company (in the amount of \$2,355,000 for plant, HVAC and plumbing); Elite Excavating Company, Inc. (in the amount of \$3,029,871 for the collection system); and Knight Electric, Inc (in the amount of \$714,000 for electrical).

"I'm happy to see this project go forward," said Commission Board President Arlene Shoemaker. "The construction of this facility is absolutely essential to the continued health and well-being of our Darbydale residents."

"I know we've worked hard to put the funding package together on this project," said Commissioner Dewey R. Stokes. "Our grant and loan award for this project from the Ohio Public Works Commission came to over five million dollars. This was the largest single award ever given to a Franklin County water and sewer project."

Commissioner Mary Jo Kilroy went on to explain, "This additional funding will mean a reduction in the projected monthly sewer bills for our Darbydale residents once they connect to the new system. The projected monthly bills will be well below the national average for a new sewer collection and treatment system of comparable size."

Construction is expected to begin on this project later this month and will run through mid-July of 2005. Individual connections into the new sewer system will begin immediately following certification of the system by the Ohio EPA.

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